THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER – PASTOR PETER PEER

The new year 2025 is here! I'm sure you all know the New Year blessing: "May all your troubles only last as long as your New Year's resolutions." I do not make New Year's resolutions. My conviction is that every Christian should be resolute in his commitment to the Christian walk every day, not just at the start of a new year. The Christian walk should include, at a minimum, communion with our Lord, spending time in the Word, in prayer every day and living a life of witness before a lost world.

I also believe that every one of our yearly conferences should leave us with a challenge to grow and flourish in our faith. So, at our 2024 conference I laid out a challenge to all pastors, all churches, all church members to make this year:

- A year of consecration
- A year of seeking God's face
- A year of renewed Spiritual discipline
- A year committed to the practice of the faith we profess

As part of that commitment I asked that we pray especially for these needs:

- for 10 new pastors in the next two years
- for the salvation of at least one friend, neighbor, or family member
- for 20 young people for this year's Net ministry

In reviewing what has been done in some of our past years, I feel a bit ashamed that I did not trust God for more. At the national conference of the Fellowship of Brethren Churches in 1948 the challenge went out to win 5,000 souls to Christ in 1949. Two slogans were repeated throughout the year: "5,000 Souls in Brethren Churches in 1949" and "United for Soul-Winning." Of course they had 110 churches but even so 5,000 conversions in one year was a great leap of faith. Of those 110 churches, fourteen were without pastors causing Miles Taber to remark that "In these days that try men's souls, that means that in every one of those fourteen communities God's people are as sheep having no shepherd."

The need for new, committed, capable, loving, and well-trained pastors is a perennial urgency. Brethren, pray the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into the harvest.

2025 NATIONAL CGCI CONFERENCE – JULY 2-7 at Marriott Northwest, Dublin, OH

KID'S CONFERENCE – PASTOR IKE GRAHAM

I am looking for help with Kid's Conference. I need help with songs, games, snacks, supervision, and Bible lessons. If you go to the CGBCI website (CGBCI.org), click on the "National Conference" tab. Under that tab, you will find the Kid's Conference schedule. You will see that help is needed on certain days at specific times. If you can help fill any one of those slots, please contact me at ikeg327@gmail.com, and let me know. I am looking for those 18 and over who can help.

YOUTH CONFERENCE – PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT & PASTOR JONATHAN EDWARDS

Time is moving fast, and we are making plans for YCON 2025. Our theme will be "VERTICAL FOCUS" from Colossians 3:2, "Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth." YCON is open to all students in grades 6-12. Students who attend must secure their own lodging with family, friends, or church chaperones. The cost for YCON is set at $100 which includes: breakfast, lunch, YCON T-shirt, and all activities. A picnic at Scioto Park on July 4 is being planned, as well as a canoe/kayak trip on the beautiful Scioto River. We are looking forward to a great time of fun, fellowship, worship, and Bible teaching. Make plans to join us Friday, July 4 - Tuesday, July 8, 2025. Links to a promotional video and Youth Registration will be posted on the CGBCI website soon!

If you're interested in helping as a counselor in 2025, please contact Pastor Chris Knight at chrisk4christ@gmail.com as soon as possible. Thank you!

CGBCI SCHOOLS OF THEOLOGY – DR RUSS SIMPSON

National Graduation for Practoriums is scheduled at National Conference the summer of 2025, at Marriott Columbus Northwest. This will be our eighth nationally recognized graduation. Potential graduates must have transcripts submitted to Dr. Simpson by ***January 30, 2025.***

NEW TROY GBC – PASTOR ROBERT MENSINGER

God is continuing to bless here at New Troy. Our attendances and offerings have been holding up well despite our small numbers. My wife Lila has been diagnosed with high grade, serous carcinoma cancer of the uterus. She has an appointment with an oncologist at Beacon Medical Group in South Bend, IN. We will update you on her status when we learn more. It sounds like she will need a hysterectomy and chemo to eradicate the cancer. We would covet your prayers through all of this.

Pastor Ron Welsh is continuing in his study in 1 Thessalonians for our adult Sunday school class. He is doing substitute teaching right now to supplement his income but is seeking something more substantial. I am now in chapter nine of Revelation and the series is going very well. Thanks for your prayers and support through all of this.

CORNERSTONE GBC – PASTOR PHILIP MOELLER

Congratulations to our quizzers for learning from John 14-17. Three churches (Mansfield, Orrville, and Trinity/Columbus) met at Orrville on January 11. Obie Geiser (Orrville) quizzed out twice and Dylan Smail (Orrville) quizzed out once. Quinn McAllister won the quiz down. The next meeting will be on March 25 at Mansfield.

NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM – PASTOR DEL MILLER

We ask for your prayers as we are looking forward to our ministry at the Limestone GBC July 20-25, 2025. The entire NET trip will be from July 12-27, 2025. We are getting very close to the Feb. 1st application deadline. Pray that our team will be able to work together well as they have done time and time again in the past.

It is already time to be thinking about 2026. Please pray that the Lord will open a door of opportunity for NET 26. Thanks so much for your interest and help.

COLLEGE OF PASTORS MIDYEAR MEETING – PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT

COP members: mark your calendars for March 11-13, 2025. The meetings will be held at the Grace Brethren Chapel, Gibsonburg, OH. Information about hotels, staying with a host family, and dining options has been sent out by the Chapel Elders. If you have not received this information, please let me know. A full schedule and details about our time together will be sent next week. Watch for details in your email. If you have any questions or business items to add to the agenda, please contact me at chrisk4christ@gmail.com or 814-483-9384. Thank you!

"The Voice Newsletter" is the communication tool of the Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International; and edited by Pastor Les Vnasdale. **News Articles and/or Mailing Updates:** Please forward all info to Pastor Chris Knight at cgbcivoicenews@gmail.com